

REMARKS

There remains pending in this application Claims 32-42, of which Claims 32, 34-36, 41 and 42 are independent. The independent claims have each been amended to more clearly recite Applicant's invention. No claims are being added or cancelled.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration together with entry of those amendments and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

There is accompanying this Amendment an Information Disclosure Statement citing three Japanese laid-open patents cited during prosecution of a corresponding application. Consideration of those references is respectfully sought.

Each of the independent claims of the above-identified application have been further amended to more clearly recite that the recording material which is fed by a manual feeding mechanism is fed from an accommodating unit accommodating pre-loaded recording material and is further amended to clarify that the control of the memory is in a case where the printer prints the image data onto the recording medium fed by the manual feeding unit.

Each of the above-described features has been added to the aforementioned independent claims. These amendments are believed merely to be clarifying and not raise new issues. More specifically, in each case, the independent claim already referred to a manual feeding unit or step and a control step in which the memory is controlled so as to hold the image data after completion of the printing operation based on a feeding operation by the manual feeding unit. These amendments are believed to more clearly distinguish the invention over the applied art. Favorable consideration and entry of those amendments is respectfully sought.

Each of the independent claims in the above-identified application stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Miura in view of Makino, et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Miura is directed to a recording apparatus in which image information is formed on a paper sheet in accordance with data input from a data controller. Miura does feature a memory which is capable of storing image data. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Miura of a controller or control method which holds image data in memory after a printing operation based on a feeding operation of the manual feeding unit as now recited in each of the claims of the above application.

Applicant respectfully submits that Makino, et al. does not meet the shortcomings of Miura. The Examiner refers to column 2, lines 49-54 of Makino, et al. as disclosing the controller of the present invention. However, Makino, et al. shows only the retention of print data in buffer memory 10 and retains print data in buffer memory 10 regardless of from where the recording material is fed. Accordingly, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Makino, et al. of a controller which controls so as to hold input image data in memory in a case where the printer prints the image onto the recording medium fed by the manual feeding unit. Makino, et al. thus fails to enable the easy reprinting of image data when performing printing to a recording material fed from the manual feeding unit when necessary, as disclosed and claimed in the present invention. Applicant therefore respectfully submit that Makino, et al. does not meet the shortcomings of Miura and that the invention is patentable over the combined art of record.

The remaining claims in the above-identified application are dependent claims which depend either directly or indirectly from one of the above-identified independent claims and are therefore patentable over the art of record for reasons noted above with respect to the independent claims. In addition, each recite features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding matters in this application have been addressed and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully sought.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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